

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant : Kenji OOKURA
Appln. No. : 10/561,527
I.A. Filed : March 28, 2005
For : CONNECTOR
Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby call to the Examiner's attention the following documents which were cited in the International Search Report for patent family member PCT/JP2005/005754, a copy of which was provided with the application as filed:

Japanese Patent Publication No. 2003-017162, along with an English language abstract thereof;

Japanese Patent Publication No. 3014608, along with an English language translation of the abstract thereof; and

Japanese Patent Publication No. 2004-55306, along with an English language abstract.

Applicant notes that the relevance of these documents to the International claims applying international law to those claims, has been indicated by the Examiner in the Search Report.

Applicant also calls the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

Japanese Publication No. 2002-008753 along with an English language abstract thereof. Applicants note that this document is cited and discussed on page 1 of the specification of the present application.

Japanese Publication No 2004-111081 along with an English language abstract thereof;

Japanese Publication No. 2004-055464 along with an English language abstract thereof;

U.S. Patent No. 6,806,801;

U.S. Patent No. 6,623,308; and

U.S. Patent No. 6,821,158.

Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(ii), copies of the U.S. patents and US patent publications are not enclosed herewith. However, if copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted foreign documents are attached hereto and all of the documents are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicants also bring to the Examiner's attention the following copending and commonly assigned patent applications:

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/561,526, which was filed on December 20, 2005;

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/548,433, which was filed on September 8, 2005; and

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/558,486, which was filed on November 28, 2005.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(iii) if the U.S. patent application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the U.S. patent applications are not enclosed herewith. However, if copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number

Respectfully submitted,
Kenji OOKURA



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| FORM PTO-1449 | | Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office | | Atty. Docket P28916 | Application No. 10/561,527 | | |
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|  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <small>(Use several sheets if necessary)</small> | | | | Applicant Kenji OOKURA | | | |
| | | | | I.A. Filing Date March 28, 2005 | Group Not Yet Assigned | | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
| | | 6 8 0 6 8 0 1 | 10/19/04 | KADOYA et al. | | | |
| | | 6 6 2 3 3 0 8 | 09/23/03 | ONO | | | |
| | | 6 8 2 1 1 5 8 | 11/23/04 | IIDA et al. | | | |
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| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES NO |
| | 2003 | - 0 1 7 1 6 2 | 01/17/03 | JAPAN | | | |
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| | 2002 | - 0 0 8 7 5 3 | 01/11/02 | JAPAN | | | |
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| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | | |
| | 1 | English Language Abstract of JP 2003-017162. | | | | | |
| | 2 | English Language Abstract of JP 3014608. | | | | | |
| | 3 | English Language Abstract of JP 2004-055306. | | | | | |
| | 4 | English Language Abstract of JP 2002-008753. | | | | | |
| | 5 | English Language Abstract of JP 2004-111081. | | | | | |
| | 6 | English Language Abstract of JP 2004-055464. | | | | | |
| | 7 | U.S. Patent Application No. 10/561,526, filed on December 20, 2005. | | | | | |
| | 8 | U.S. Patent Application No. 10/548,433, filed on September 8, 2005. | | | | | |
| | 9 | U.S. Patent Application No. 10/558,486, filed on November 28, 2005. | | | | | |
| EXAMINER | | | DATE CONSIDERED | | | | |
| <small>*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</small> | | | | | | | |